

their childhood homes and schools as places where love, encouragement, and instruction provided them with the tools they needed to become contributing citizens. Today, the role of families, schools, and communities remains crucial to providing stability and direction to America's young people.

My Administration strongly supports Federal, State, and local programs that help families stay together, keep both parents involved in their child's life, and utilize our education system to stand by parents and reinforce the values that are taught in the home. I am particularly pleased that the Congress passed and I have signed into law legislation I proposed to strengthen and expand successful mentoring initiatives aimed at serving a vulnerable population: children whose parents are incarcerated. This new initiative—"Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001"—represents the first comprehensive Federal effort to improve the lives of these children. This important legislation will help surround vulnerable youth with positive, one-on-one role models, and help them not just dream big dreams, but achieve them.

On the occasion of National Mentoring Month, we pay tribute to the parents, teachers, community leaders, and citizens who serve as mentors and role models for our children. We encourage others to become involved in mentoring.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim January 2002 as National Mentoring Month. I call upon the people of the United States to recognize the importance of being role models for our youth, to look for mentoring opportunities in their communities, and to celebrate this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-sixth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., January 23, 2002]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on January 24.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the
Extension of Normal Trade Relations
Status for Certain Former Eastern
Bloc States**

January 18, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On September 21, 1994, President Clinton determined and reported to the Congress that the Russian Federation was not in violation of paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 402(a) of the Trade Act of 1974, or paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection 409(a) of that Act. On June 3, 1997, he also determined and reported to the Congress that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine were not in violation of the same provisions, and made an identical determination on December 5, 1997, with respect to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. These actions allowed for the continuation of normal trade relations for these countries and certain other activities without the requirement of an annual waiver.

On June 29, 2000, pursuant to section 302(b) of Public Law 106-200, President Clinton determined that title IV of the 1974 Trade Act should no longer apply to Kyrgyzstan, and on December 29, 2000, pursuant to section 3002 of Public Law 106-476, he determined that title IV of the 1974 Trade Act should no longer apply to Georgia.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning the emigration laws and policies of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. The report indicates continued compliance of these countries with international standards concerning freedom of emigration.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Richard B. Cheney, President of the Senate.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

January 13

In the morning, from the Oval Office, the President had separate telephone conversations with President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan and with Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee of India, to discuss the situation in South Asia.

January 14

In the morning, the President traveled to East Moline, IL. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with President Bashar al-Asad of Syria. He also had a telephone conversation with Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to discuss cooperation against terrorism and peace efforts in the Middle East.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Springfield, MO, and Aurora, MO. In the evening, he traveled to New Orleans, LA.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jack C. Chow for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure as Special Representative of the Secretary of State for HIV/AIDS.

The President announced his intention to nominate Margaret Goldwater Clay, Michael Goldstein, and John Henry Winston to be members of the Board of Trustees for the Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Andrew Saul to be a member and Chair upon confirmation, and Gordon Whiting and Alejandro Modesto Sanchez to be members of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate the following individuals to be members of the National Institute for Literacy Advisory Board: Carol C. Gambill, Douglas Carnine, Carmel Borders, Blanca E. Enriquez, Jean Osborn, Phyllis C. Hunter, Mark G. Yudof, Juan R. Olivarez, William T. Hiller, and Robin Morris.

January 15

In the morning, the President returned to Washington, DC.

January 16

In the morning, the President had CIA and FBI briefings and then met with the National Security Council.

The President named the following individuals to serve on the President's Council on Bioethics: Leon R. Kass, Chair; Elizabeth Blackburn; Stephen Carter; Rebecca Dresser; Daniel Foster; Francis Fukuyama; Michael Gazzaniga; Robert P. George; Alfonso Gomez-Lobo; Mary Ann Glendon; William B. Hurlbut; Charles Krauthammer; William F. May; Paul McHugh; Gilbert Meilaender; Janet D. Rowley; Michael J. Sandel; and James Q. Wilson.

January 17

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom concerning cooperation against terrorism and the situation in South Asia. He then had CIA and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney. Later, he met with President Valdas Adamkus of Lithuania in the Oval Office, and then participated in a Partners in 4-H Awards ceremony in the Roosevelt Room.

In the evening, the President hosted a cocktail reception in the Residence for Republican Congressmen.

During the day, the President participated in the filming of the television productions "The Bush White House: Inside the Real West Wing," which will air on NBC on January 23, and "Inside the White House," which will air on the Discovery Channel on January 25.